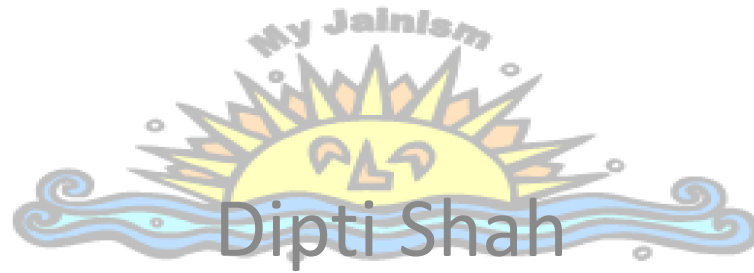




Yakshas and Yakshinis





Who are they?

- Devs are of four major kinds
 - Bhavanpati
 - Vyantar
 - Jyotishk
 - Vaimanik
- Yaksha and Yakshini are a kind of Vyantar
- All Yakshas are Devs as well as Vyantars
- However, all Devs are not Yakshas or Vyantars





Who are they?

- Some of the Yaksha and/or Yakshinis are anointed as care takers of specific followers of Jainism
- These care takers are also called Adhisthyak or Adhisthyaika
- These care takers are samyaktvi (Having right faith)





Tirthanakar Adhithayaks



- 24 Yaksha and 24 Yakshinis are anointed as Adhithayak and Adhithayika of the 24 tirthankaras
- Their job is to protect the followers of the particular tirthankara
- Their anointment is done on the first day of establishment of the tirth by a tirthankara





Tirthankaras and their Yakshas and Yakshanis

Tirthankara	Yaksh and Yakshini
Rishabhadeva	Gomukha / Chakresvari

Ajitanatha	Mahayaksha / Ajitabala
Sambhavanatha	Trimukha / Duritari
Abhinandana	Nayaka / Kalika
Sumatinatha	Tumburu / Mahakali
Padmaprabha	Kusuma / Shyama
Suparsvanatha	Matanga / Shanta
Chandraprabha	Vijaya / Bhrikuti
Suvidhinatha	Ajita / Sutaraka
Shitalanatha	Brahma / Ashoka
Shreyamsanatha	Yakshet / Manavi
Vasupujyaswami	Kumara / Chanda

Tirthankara	Yaksh and Yakshini
Vimalanatha	Shanmukha / Vidita
Anantanatha	Patala / Ankusha
Dharmanatha	Kinnara / Kandarpa
Shantinatha	Garuda / Nirvani
Kunthunatha	Gandharva / Bala
Aranatha	Yaksheta / Dhana
Mallinatha	Kubera / Dharanapriya
Munisuvrataswa mi	Varuna / Naradatta
Naminatha	Bhrikuti / Gandhari
Neminatha	Gomedha / Ambika
Parshvanatha	Parshwayaksha / Padmavati
Mahavirswami	Matamga / Siddhayika



Yaksha / Yakshini and Others

- One should not bow down to Yaksh or Yakshini idols in front of tirthankara or siddhas
- The post of a monk is higher than Yaksh or Yakshini also.

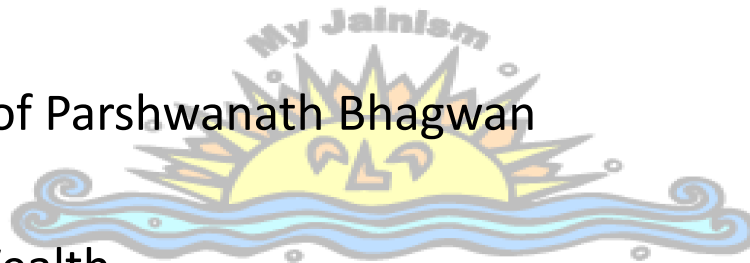




Yakshinis in Jain Temples



- Chakreshwari Devi
 - Adhithayika of Adinath Bhagwan
 - Adhithayika of Shatrunjay (Palitana)
 - Adhithayika of Jin Shashan
- Padmavati Devi
 - Adhithayika of Parshwanath Bhagwan
- Laxmi Devi
 - Goddess of Wealth
- Saraswati Devi
 - Goddess of Knowledge





Yakshas in Jain Temples



- Ghantakarna Veer
 - A Dev who helps overcome obstacles
 - His worship is controversial
- Nakoda Bhairav
 - Kshetra (Area) Dev
 - Protects followers of Nakoda Parshwanath
- Manibhadra Veer
 - Adhithayak of Tapa Gachh (Jain clan)
 - Manikchand Sheth fought with robbers on his way to Palitana rather than giving up every thing and died
 - All Acharyas, irrespective of their group, visit a place of worship of Manibhadra Veer

